

Message Text

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51

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 SS-15 NSC-05 VO-03 SCA-01

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

L-02 PM-03 /047 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:GDKULICK:JR

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

S/R/ORM:LARTHUR

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R 122130Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 055579

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS, SREF

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR ASYLUM BY ETHIOPIAN

1. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE (INS) HAS REFERRED TO DEPT SEVERAL APPLICATIONS BY ETHIOPIANS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM IN U.S. BECAUSE OF FEARS OF PERSECUTION IF THEY RETURN TO ETHIOPIA, AND WE ANTICIPATE MORE IN THE COMING MONTHS. APPLICANTS TEND TO FALL INTO TWO CATEGORIES: A) PERSONS CLAIMING TO BE MEMBERS OR SUPPORTERS OF ANCIEN REGIME OR CLOSE RELATIVES THEREOF AND B) ERITREANS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF ETHIOPIAN ARMED FORCES STUDYING IN U.S.

2. IN MOST CASES INS ASKS DEPT FOR RECOMMENDATION REGARDING VALIDITY OF APPLICANT'S ASSERTIONS RE LIKELIHOOD OF PERSECUTION IF HE RETURNS TO ETHIOPIA.

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WHILE EACH CASE IS OBVIOUSLY UNIQUE AND DECIDED ON ITS

OWN MERITS, DEPT REQUESTS EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON FOLLOWING
GENERAL QUESTIONS TO GUIDE IT IN RESPONDING TO INS
INQUIRIES: A) TO WHAT EXTENT ARE INDIVIDUALS LIABLE
TO ARREST, HARASSMENT OR PERSECUTION ON THE BASIS
OF FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIP TO MEMBERS OR PROMINENT

SUPPORTERS OF HAILE SELASSIE REGIME OR ARISTOCRACY?
B) HOW WELL-FOUNDED ARE FEARS OF PERSECUTION FOR
HAVING CRITICIZED OR VERBALLY OPPOSED MILITARY REGIME?
C) HOW WELL-FOUNDED ARE FEARS OF PERSECUTION ON PART
OF ERITREANS, ESPECIALLY MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES, WHO
ARE KNOWN TO HAVE CLOSE RELATIVES PARTICIPATING
IN INSURGENCY?

3. REQUEST REPLY ASAP AS SEVERAL CASES PENDING. INGERSOLL

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